

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 46-50, 57 and 63 as indicated in the following list of pending claims.

PENDING CLAIMS

1-45. (Cancelled)

46. (Currently Amended): A system for accessing target tissue within a patient and isolating a body of target tissue from its supporting bed, comprising

- a. a biopsy device having a wand with a proximal portion and a distal portion, a housing on the proximal portion, an electrosurgical tissue cutting electrode secured to the distal portion of the wand, a first electrical conductor extending within the wand having a distal end electrically connected to the electrosurgical electrode and a proximal end configured to be electrically connected to an electrical power source, at least one deployable tissue contacting element connected to said distal wand portion and at least one driving member within the housing configured to move at least one deployable tissue contacting element of the biopsy device;
- b. a replaceable drive unit having a receptacle for engaging and releasably holding at least a portion of the housing on the proximal portion of the wand; and a driving element configured to engage the at least one driving member within the [[wand]] housing configured to transfer mechanical power to said biopsy device; and

- d. a motor unit for engaging and providing power to the driving element of the drive unit, comprising a securing mechanism effective to form a mechanically stable engagement between said motor unit and said drive element of the driving unit~~[[,]]~~ effective to transfer mechanical power therebetween.

47. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 46, wherein said at least one deployable element is ~~selected from the group consisting of an anchoring mechanism and a side-cutting mechanism comprising a cutting element.~~

48. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 47, wherein the wand has a distal end and said ~~anchoring mechanism~~ side-cutting element is located proximal to the distal end of the wand.

49. (Currently Amended): The system of claim ~~[[47]]~~ 48, wherein said ~~cutting element of said side-cutting mechanism~~ is configured to be rotated about a longitudinal axis of the wand ~~effective to isolate a body of target tissue when said wand is disposed within a patient.~~

50. (Currently Amended): The system of claim ~~[[48]]~~ 46, wherein the at least one deployable element is an anchoring mechanism which is configured to be extended into ~~[[a]]~~ the body of target tissue when said wand is disposed within a patient.

51. (Previously presented): The system of claim 46, wherein the drive element of said drive unit is configured to engage a shuttle effective to deploy or retract the deployable element of said biopsy device.

52. (Previously presented): The system of claim 47, wherein said tissue anchoring mechanism comprises a radially extending wire.

53. (Previously presented): The system of claim 46, wherein said drive unit further comprises a drive gear configured to engage a shaft gear effective to rotate said wand.

54. (Previously presented): The system of claim 46, wherein said drive unit has a mechanical connector comprising a spindle, and wherein said transferred mechanical power comprises rotary power.

55. (Previously presented): The system of claim 46, wherein said securing mechanism of said motor unit comprises a releasable connection.

56. (Previously presented): The system of claim 46, wherein said mechanical power of said motor unit comprises rotary power and said securing mechanism comprises a ridged sleeve configured to receive a spindle effective to transfer rotary motion.

57. (Currently Amended): The system of claim ~~[[49]]~~ 50, ~~wherein said cutting element of the including a side-cutting mechanism of said biopsy device comprises comprising~~ an elongated electrode having a distal end secured distal to the anchoring mechanism, ~~[[and]]~~ a proximal end secured proximal to the anchoring mechanism and ~~said wand further comprises~~ a second electrical conductor extending ~~therein within the wand~~ having a distal end electrically connected to the elongated electrode and a proximal end configured to be electrically connected to an electrical power source.

58. (Previously presented): The system of claim 46, wherein said electrosurgical electrode of said biopsy device has a cutting surface spaced distal to the distal end of the shaft.

59. (Previously presented): The system of claim 47, wherein said anchoring mechanism of said biopsy device includes a plurality of elongated members configured to expand outwardly from the wand and to penetrate into target tissue.

60. (Previously presented): The system of claim 59 wherein said elongated members of said anchoring mechanism are formed at least in part of electrically conducting material.

61. (Previously presented): The system of claim 60 wherein a third electrical conductor extends within the elongated shaft of the biopsy device and has a distal end electrically connected to at least one of the elongated members and a proximal end configured to be electrically connected to an electrical power source.

62. (Previously presented): The system of claim 60 wherein the elongated members of said anchoring mechanism are metallic wires or ribbons.

63. (Currently amended): The system of claim ~~[[62]]~~ 60 wherein the wires or ribbons are movably mounted to the elongated shaft of the biopsy device and have a contracted configuration to facilitate advancement of the biopsy device within the patient and a radially expanded configuration to penetrate into target tissue.

64-66. (Cancelled)

67. (Previously presented) A system for severing a tissue body within a patient from supporting tissue, comprising:

- a. a tissue severing unit having an elongated wand with a tissue cutting element on a distal portion of the wand, an additional operative element on the distal portion of the wand and a housing on a proximal portion of

the wand and moving elements within the housing for moving the tissue cutting element and the additional operative element;

- b. a replaceable drive unit having a recess for receiving at least a portion of the housing of the tissue severing unit and having driving elements for engaging moving elements within the housing of the tissue severing unit to operate the tissue cutting element and the additional operative element on the distal portion of the wand; and
- c. a motor unit having a motor, a mechanical connector configured to transfer mechanical power from the motor to the driving elements of the drive unit to operate the tissue severing element and to operate the additional operative element of the tissue severing unit.

68. (Previously presented) The system of claim 67 including a securing mechanism effective to form a mechanically stable engagement between the motor unit and the drive unit, and a coupling mechanism configured to engage with the mechanical connector of the motor unit effective to transfer mechanical power.

69. (Previously presented) The system of claim 67, wherein the drive unit is configured to engage a shuttle operably connected to a moving member in the housing of the tissue severing unit to operate an operative element on the distal portion of the wand.

70. (Previously presented) The system of claim 67, wherein the tissue cutting element is a radially deployable cutting element.

71. (Previously presented) The system of claim 70 wherein the deployable cutting element is an electrosurgical cutting element.

72. (Previously presented) The system of claim 69, wherein the drive unit includes a drive gear configured to engage a moving member within the housing of the tissue severing unit.

73. (Previously presented) The system of claim 72 wherein the moving member is a shaft gear that is effective to rotate the wand of the tissue severing unit.

74. (Previously presented) The system of claim 67 wherein the mechanical connector includes a spindle.

75. (Previously presented) The system of claim 68 wherein the mechanical power is rotational power.